

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:170
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2017
Ration Cards and Fair Price Shops
Parthipan Shri R.;Puttaraju Shri C.S.

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of ration cards issued and Fair Price Shops operational in the country at present, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has any mechanism for redressal of grievances of the consumers under the Public Distribution System (PDS) and if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken to redress the grievances;
- (c) the steps taken to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of PDS by the Government;
- (d) whether several irregularities, including diversion of PDS foodgrains, prevalence of fake ration cards, supply of poor quality foodgrains and charging of high price have been reported during the last three years and the current year; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard indicating the number of cases reported and the losses suffered as a result thereof, State/ UT-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN)

(a)to (e):A statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. *170 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 14.03.2017 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a): As per information received from States/UTs, a statewide statement showing the number of ration cards issued and registered FPS on Annexure-I.

(b): NFSA provides for two tier Grievance Redressal Mechanism in each State/UT including District Grievance Redressal Officer and State Food Commission. Besides, Toll Free help line numbers (1967 / 1800 Series) are also made available by State/UT Governments to beneficiaries for registration of their grievances.

(c) to (e): In a continuous endeavour to strengthen and streamline TPDS, the Government has initiated implementation of 'End-to-end Computerisation of TPDS Operations' during the 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17) on cost sharing basis with the States/UTs to ensure transparency and check leakages in the TPDS system. The Scheme comprises of activities namely, digitization of ration cards/beneficiary and other databases, computerisation of supply-chain management, setting up of transparency portals and grievance redressal mechanisms and installation of e PoS devices at Fair Price Shops and issuance of foodgrains through biometric authentication.

Under the scheme, financial assistance is being provided to States/UTs on cost sharing basis. The cost is being shared on 90:10 basis with North East States and on 50:50 basis with other States/UTs. Under this scheme, as per reports received, as on 01/03/2017, 100 % ration card data has been digitized, Online allocation is being done in 29 States/UTs, supply-chain management implemented in 20 States/UTs, Transparency Portal set up in all States/UTs, online Grievance Redressal Mechanism / toll free helpline number has been set up in all States/UTs.

There have been complaints about irregularities in the functioning of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) including leakage/diversion of foodgrains, foodgrains not reaching the intended beneficiaries, issuance of ration cards to ineligible persons, etc. in some States/regions in the country. TPDS is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/Union Territory (UT) Governments wherein the operational responsibilities for implementation of TPDS within the State/UT rest with the State/UT Governments concerned. Therefore, as and when complaints are received by the Government from individuals and organizations as well as through press reports, these are referred to the State/UT Governments concerned, if required, for inquiry and appropriate action. A State/UT-wise statement indicating number of such complaints received during the last three years and current year is at Annex -II.

ANNEX - I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. *170 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 14.03.2017 IN THE LOK SABHA

Total Ration Cards and Fair Price Shops as on 07.03.2017

Sl.

States/UTs

Total Ration Cards

Total Fair Price Shops

1

Andhra Pradesh

94,36,026

29,082

2

Andaman & Nicobar

13,370

509
3
Arunachal Pradesh
1,76,342
1,731
4
Assam
57,55,686
38,794
5
Bihar
1,54,01,000
42,117
6
Chandigarh
59,402
DBT (Cash)
7
Chhattisgarh
53,68,000
12,350
8
Dadra & Nagar Haveli
42,536
62
9
Daman & Diu
24,120
51
10
Delhi
19,45,358
2,254
11
Goa
1,38,361
447
12
Gujarat
72,30,246
17,237
13
Haryana
29,41,138
9,631
14
Himachal Pradesh
6,99,584
4,877
15
Jammu and Kashmir
15,97,288
5,970
16
Jharkhand
57,56,766
23,379
17
Karnataka
1,05,48,106
20,497
18
Kerala
34,33,036
14,335
19
Lakshadweep
5,110
39
20
Madhya Pradesh

1,15,37,855
22,409
21
Maharashtra
1,48,28,050
51,259
22
Manipur
5,17,093
2,052
23
Meghalaya
4,21,548
4,651
24
Mizoram
1,43,315
1,268
25
Nagaland
2,83,581
1,691
26
Odisha
86,13,870
13,844
27
Puducherry
1,62,456
DBT (Cash)
28
Punjab
36,35,425
16,657
29
Rajasthan
1,02,05,458
25,721
30
Sikkim
96,911
1,421
31
Tamil Nadu
98,29,111
34,774
32
Telangana
49,27,847
17,159
33
Tripura
5,90,117
1,798
34
Uttar Pradesh
3,41,20,299
79,391
35
Uttarakhand
13,30,404
9,212
36
West Bengal
6,01,85,092
19,733
Total
23,19,99,907
5,26,402

ANNEX-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) to (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. *170 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 14.03.2017 IN THE LOK SABHA

STATEMENT: COMPLAINTS ON TPDS RECEIVED FROM INDIVIDUALS, ORGANISATIONS & THROUGH MEDIA REPORTS ETC FROM 2013 TO 2016

S. No.

State/UT

2013

2014

2015

2016

1

Andhra Pradesh

3

4

8

5

2

Arunachal Pradesh

-

1

1

-

3

Assam

-

5

34

32

4

Bihar

32

55

106

81

5

Chhattisgarh

3

3

6

9

6

Delhi

37

78

113

91

7

Goa

-

-

-

1

8

Gujarat

4

16

8

12

9

Haryana

11

26

35

34

10

Himachal Pradesh

-

-

4

5

11

J&K
-
-
5
3
12
Jharkhand
8
16
32
29
13
Karnataka
6
6
16
22
14
Kerala
1
1
16
22
15
Madhya Pradesh
17
7
17
24
16
Maharashtra
20
25
48
62
17
Manipur
2
1
6
4
18
Meghalaya
1
2
7
9
19
Mizoram
-
-
-
-
20
Nagaland
-
3
-
2
21
Orissa
3
8
22
43
22
Punjab
6
5
10
7

23
Rajasthan
18
31
33
59
24
Sikkim
0
-
-
-
25
Tamil Nadu
9
7
22
33
26
Telangana
-
-
10
1
27
Tripura
-
-
-
1
28
Uttarakhand
2
8
24
21
29
Uttar Pradesh
92
137
197
461
30
West Bengal
7
11
32
29
31
A&N Island
-
-
-
1
32
Chandigarh
-
3
6
2
33
D& N Haveli
-
1
-
1
34
Puducherry
-
-
-

-

TOTAL

282

460

818

1106
